

2013-J3727

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Nicholas Courtney, of Williamsville, New York, upon the occasion of his designation as a Distinguished Finalist in the 19th Annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to act, in accord with its long-standing traditions, honoring the youth of today, and leaders of tomorrow, whose character and achievements exemplify the ideals and values cherished by this great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Courtney has distinguished himself as a young man of superlative ability, establishing a high standard of community service, purposefulness of life, and sense of responsibility rarely achieved in youthful years; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Courtney, 17, of Williamsville, New York, and a senior at St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute, has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service by being named a 2014 Prudential Spirit of Community Distinguished Finalist; and

WHEREAS, The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, created in 1995 by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), are designed to emphasize the importance our nation places on service to others, and to encourage all young Americans to contribute to their communities; and

WHEREAS, As a Distinguished Finalist, Nicholas Courtney will receive an engraved bronze medallion; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Courtney co-founded "International Micro-loans of Buffalo" in August of 2012, and has since raised more than \$16,000 and distributed more than 61 micro-loans to small businesses throughout the world; Nicholas, who works with the international charity Kiva to distribute the loans, is responsible for preparing and distributing newsletters to donors, updating the website, and creating fundraising

and advertising campaigns for the organization; and

WHEREAS, The success of the State of New York, the strength of our communities, and the vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young people like Nicholas Courtney, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved to honor Nicholas Courtney, commending him for his outstanding record of volunteer service, peer leadership, and community service and recognizing the value of his labors and the promise of his future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations, with praise and pride, to commend Nicholas Courtney for his achievements and to extend to him the best wishes of this Legislative Body for a future of purposeful success and well-being, fully confident of his response to the challenges of a promising future and appreciative of the model he represents for all young people of the Empire State; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Nicholas Courtney.